

Community Health Centers – Joint Letter Request (\$2,602,000,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For non-defense projects in the current earmarking system, I work closely with local governments, civic organizations, non-profits and business development authorities to identify and prioritize projects important to local communities in Georgia's Eighth Congressional District (and sometimes elsewhere). I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This program supports over 7,000 federally-qualified health centers nationwide that provide comprehensive primary health care services to all, regardless of their ability to pay. It is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because community health centers provide affordable, effective high-quality care to underserved communities nationwide.